

ensued, in which the PRESIDENT, Mr. E. BARTLETT, Mr. GAINE, Mr. PARSON, and others took part.

The PRESIDENT then announced that on the next meeting, on April 21st, Mr. Christopher Heath would read a paper on "Thirty-five years' History of a Maxillary Tumour."

SELECTIONS FROM JOURNALS.

SURGERY.

CONGENITAL DIVERTICULUM OF THE ŒSOPHAGUS.—E. Kurz relates in the *Deutsche Medicinische Wochenschrift* for 1879, No. 40, the case of a child three years, which had since birth been subject to vomiting of food, both solid and fluid, soon after taking it. The solid matter, which was usually about a handful, was mixed with mucus and had an acid reaction. The sound when introduced sometimes reached the stomach, but was more frequently arrested at a depth of nearly four inches by an obstruction which could not be overcome. The attacks became more intense; scarcely any food reached the stomach; and the child fell off very much. Dr. Kurz concluded from the symptoms that there was a congenital diverticulum of the Œsophagus, which, when filled, compressed the tube. The child came several times under treatment, the last time in a very miserable condition. An Œsophageal sound was passed into the diverticulum, and through it water was poured in by means of a funnel; this escaped by the side of the sound, bringing with it a large quantity of mucus, coagulated milk, and bread-crumbs. After this had been entirely removed, the child was again able to swallow. From this time, fluid food was used; and, as soon as an attack of vomiting appeared, the washing out was repeated, and always removed the obstruction for a considerable time. In the course of the following summer there were only two attacks; the child was well nourished, and had much increased in size.

THE TREATMENT OF PROLAPSE OF THE RECTUM.—M. Émile Vidal lately read, before the French Academy of Medicine, an account of three cases of prolapsus recti, which he had successfully treated by the subcutaneous injection of ergotine. The first case was that of a man aged 39, who had suffered from prolapsus for eight years. After five injections of fifteen drops of solution of ergotine, a period of about two days intervening between the injections, the mucous membrane scarcely protruded at all. After the eleventh injection, it only came down during defecation, and returned spontaneously. The total number of injections made was twenty-two. Four years had elapsed, and the man remained perfectly well. The second patient, a female aged 64, was cured after twenty-four days' treatment, and, during the two-and-a-half years since the operations, there had been no return. In the third case, a female aged 45, who had suffered for two years, was cured in fifteen days, by six injections of twenty to twenty-five drops each. The solution used consisted of fifteen grains of Bonjean's ergotine to seventy-five minims of cherry laurel-water. The injections were made at the distance of one-fifth of an inch from the anal orifice. Acute pain always followed, accompanied by contraction of the sphincter, which lasted several hours. Several times, an injection of twenty-five drops of the solution produced spasm of the neck of the bladder and retention of urine for eight to ten hours. In no case was local inflammation or abscess caused by the ergotine.

MEDICINE.

ON LOSS OF WEIGHT IN EPILEPTICS.—Dr. Kowalewski (*St. Petersburg. Med. Wochenschrift*, No. 47, 1879) has made a number of observations on the conditions of the body-weight in epileptic patients, both during the attacks and in the intervals, and has arrived at the following conclusions. 1. In all cases of epilepsy and in all forms of the disease, the weight of the body decreases after each attack, in proportion to the duration of the illness and the severity of the paroxysms. 2. In inveterate cases, where the paroxysms occur very frequently and the organism has become accustomed to the attacks, the loss of body-weight after a paroxysm amounts to only one or two pounds; while in recent cases, in which the paroxysms are rather unfrequent, it is considerable, amounting to as much as from three to twelve pounds. 3. When several attacks occur in succession, the greatest loss of weight follows the first attack, and after the others the loss is very small. 4. In all forms of motor or somatic epilepsy, the great loss of weight occurs during epileptic convulsions, amounting sometimes to as much as twelve pounds at a time; in epileptic syncope, the loss of weight is much less. The greatest loss of weight—amounting sometimes to one-fourth of the whole body-weight—takes place when there is insanity combined with epilepsy. The weight again increases a few days after the attacks.

MATERIA MEDICA AND THERAPEUTICS.

FORMULA FOR RELIEF OF ITCHING.—The *Philadelphia Medical and Surgical Reporter* for March 6th gives, under the name of "Battey's Formula", the following: Crystals of iodine, half an ounce; crystallised carbolic acid, one ounce; combine the two by gentle heat. It further says that Dr. Bellamy states, in the *North Carolina Medical Journal* for December 1879, that the above formula has given him more satisfaction in the management of those intractable forms of skin-disease characterised by intolerable itching, and more particularly in eczema marginatum, than any other parasiticide.

REPORTS AND ANALYSES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW INVENTIONS IN MEDICINE, SURGERY, DIETETICS, AND THE ALLIED SCIENCES.

AIR OR WATER PADS FOR SPLINTS.

The air- or water-pads that I have had manufactured by the Britannia Rubber Company, 32, Cannon Street, have given me the greatest satisfaction. I exhibited them before the North of Ireland Branch of the British Medical Association at the recent meeting in Belfast. The members present seemed to approve highly of the pads, and considered they would supply a want much felt by surgeons. In one important particular I know they are eminently serviceable, and that is in entirely solving the long-vexed question of sore-heels in the treatment of fractures of the lower extremity. One of the little heel-pads (fig. 2) filled with air or water, and placed under the heel, in a box-splint or any other fracture appliance, will prevent the patient from complaining of the slightest pain or inconvenience, no matter how long it may be necessary to keep the limb in position. Such has been the result of my own experience. To guard, however, against the possibility of pain, I have had attached to each pad a small tube about four inches long, with a stop-cock, by means of which the pressure on the heel can be relieved by allowing exit to a small quantity of air or water, or again, if necessary, by further inflation. The small perineal pad (fig. 3) is placed between a fold or two of linen, and prevents irritation when counterextension is necessary, as in fractures of the neck of the femur, etc. The side pads for fractures of the upper or lower extremity are on the same principle. They can be filled with air or water, and are made of all sizes. Fig. No. 1 shows the size of a pad for the leg.

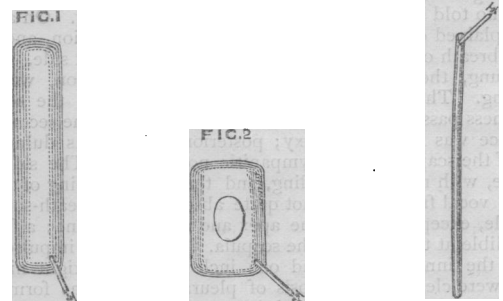


Fig. 1. Leg-pad, 18 inches long by 4 inches wide.—Fig. 2. Heel-pad, 5 inches long by 4 inches wide, with a hole for heel, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.—Fig. 3. Perineal pad, 18 inches long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide.

For padding a McIntyre's splint, these pads are invaluable; the leg lies on a small air- or water-bed, and the patient never complains of pain or inconvenience; indeed, the limb will rest upon one of them for months without discomfort. Before applying a pad, I place it in a cover of linen, which is made waterproof by a simple chemical process known to everyone, and which I need not here detail. I then inflate it, and it is at once ready for use. If the limb be inflamed or irritable, I fill the pad with water instead of air.

I can testify, from experience, as to the great satisfaction afforded both to surgeon and patient by these pads, and they seem to me to fulfil a desideratum in surgery.

EDWARD C. THOMPSON, M.B.,
Surgeon to the Tyrone County Infirmary.

ASSOCIATION INTELLIGENCE.

COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL:

NOTICE OF MEETING.

A MEETING of the Committee of Council will be held at the offices of the Association, 161A, Strand, London, on Wednesday, the 14th day of April next, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

FRANCIS FOWKE, *General Secretary*.

161A, Strand, London, March 22nd, 1880.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

THE next meeting of this district will be held at the Bow and Bromley Institute on Thursday, April 15th, at 5 P.M.; CORNELIUS E. GARMAN, Esq., in the Chair.

A paper will be read on the Treatment of Chronic Dysentery, by Stephen Mackenzie, M.D.

A. GRANT, M.D., *Honorary Secretary*.

370, Commercial Road, E., April 6th, 1880.

BATH AND BRISTOL BRANCH.

THE fifth ordinary meeting of the session will be held at the Grand Pump Room Hotel, Bath, on Thursday evening, April 15th: J. BEDDOE, M.D., President.

R. S. FOWLER, } *Honorary Secretaries*.
E. C. BOARD, }

Bath, March 1880.

NORTH WALES BRANCH.

THE intermediate meeting of this Branch has been deferred until after the General Election.

The subject for discussion at the meeting will be "The Zymotic Influence in Disease".

J. LLOYD ROBERTS, *Honorary Secretary*.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

THE next ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at Wakefield on April 28th. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, etc., are requested to send titles, before the 12th instant, to

ARTHUR JACKSON, *Secretary pro tem*.

Sheffield, April 1880.

SOUTH WALES AND MONMOUTHSHIRE BRANCH.

THE next ordinary meeting of this Branch will be held at Aberdare on Thursday, April 22nd. Gentlemen desirous of reading papers, etc., are requested to send titles without delay to one of the honorary secretaries.

ALFRED SHEEN, M.D. } *Honorary Secretaries*.
J. HANCOCKE WATHEN, }

March 16th, 1880.

NORTH OF ENGLAND AND BORDER COUNTIES BRANCHES: CONJOINT MEETING.

A CONJOINT meeting of the above Branches will be held at Gilsland, on Thursday, April 29th, at 3 P.M. The Chair will be occupied by Dr. PHILIPSON, President of the North of England Branch, who will give a short address.

Gentlemen desirous of reading papers are requested to communicate with their Branch Secretaries at their earliest convenience.

J. SMITH, M.D., Dumfries.
J. K. BURT, M.B., Kendal.
T. W. BARRON, M.B., Durham.

SOUTH-EASTERN BRANCH: EAST KENT DISTRICT.

THE last meeting of this District was held at the Ship Hotel, Faversham, on Thursday, March 25th, at 3 o'clock; Dr. GANGE of Faversham in the Chair.

Papers.—The following papers were read.

1. Some Irregular Forms of Pneumonia. By Dr. Bowles.
2. A Remarkable Case. By Mr. Garraway.
3. The Dose of Iodide of Potassium. By Mr. Treves,

4. Cases illustrating the Use of Martin's Elastic Bandage were reported by Mr. Tyson.

Next Meeting.—May 27th was agreed to as the date of the conjoint meeting with the West Kent District, which will take place at Rochester.

METROPOLITAN COUNTIES BRANCH: EAST LONDON AND SOUTH ESSEX DISTRICT.

THIS district held a meeting at the London Hospital on March 18th, at 9 P.M.; STEPHEN MACKENZIE, M.D., in the Chair.

Cases.—Several cases were exhibited by the Chairman, including cases of athetosis, double torticollis, and elephantiasis.

The Treatment of Pneumonia.—Dr. ALEXANDER COLLIE read a paper on the treatment of pneumonia. Having described the symptoms of a typical case, Dr. Collie went on to consider the theories regarding the nature of the disease, the statistics, and treatment. Bleeding, except in moderation to relieve symptoms, he condemned; the abuse of alcohol, he protested against. He thought physicians must wait for many years and patiently investigate the facts before they could lay down rules for a scientific treatment. He recommended water, beef-tea, milk, wine if required, fomentations to relieve pain, attention to bowels, a large well-ventilated room, and a good nurse.—A discussion followed; and votes of thanks were passed to Dr. Collie for his paper and to Dr. Mackenzie for presiding and for bringing forward such interesting cases.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NURSING AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.

SIR,—It is a wicked and cruel thing that, in order to justify the expulsion of more than one-half of the sisters and nurses at Guy's for one specious pretext or another, it should be endeavoured to brand them with being "charwomen" and of "dubious" character. Women who had been from three to fifteen years in constant service, under constant instruction in the practical portion of their work, most of them having received lectures in the hospital on nursing, being the eliminated residue of a larger number who had passed through the wards, could not possibly be devoid of the requirements of a nurse, as they have been described in some quarters. And it is a direct untruth to say, as a class, their characters were doubtful. They were neither better nor worse than would be a similar assemblage of severely trained nurses, although ladies by birth. But, indeed, most of the sisters were from the middle class, and the nurses, although not gentleborn, were yet gentle. But it is yet a matter for experience whether, for a hospital nurse, a lady gently nurtured, however willing and well trained in her duties, is altogether, for an extended period, so efficient in all ways as a woman gentle by nature but taken from those who have had some experience in the hard work of the world, and somewhat inured to its strain.

But let this pass: my object in writing is to protest against insult, which has been added to injury done to a staff of efficient and reliable nurses.

As for the medical and surgical staff, everyone in the profession knows what reliance can be placed on the obloquy also endeavoured to be thrown on them for protesting against a scheme they did not approve, and which was introduced without so much as the slightest intimation of any change having been made to them.

It may be added that all the nurses who left were constantly engaged in public and private nursing, and in many cases were specially asked for by those in search of nurses.—I am, etc., ONE WHO KNOWS.

THE PREVENTION OF ACCIDENTAL POISONING.

SIR,—The frequent occurrence of deaths from persons either taking or being given fluid poisons or lotions containing poisonous substances indicates that some safeguard against these accidents is urgently called for. Recently, when seeing a patient in consultation, I was struck with the merits of the form invariably used for holding external applications at the Brookwood Asylum and introduced by Dr. Brushfield. These bottles are conical, tapering from an octagonal base to the neck, which is circular, five-eighths of an inch in internal diameter, and sufficiently long to hold a cork. They are of a deep blue colour, and of various sizes. Bright yellow labels are always affixed to these bottles. The system employed at the Brookwood Asylum is the following.

1. *For Internal Medicines*.—Bottles with parallel sides; of white transparent glass; white labels.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND POOR-LAW MEDICAL SERVICES.

THE DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

THE success which has attended the Delancey Fever Hospital, Cheltenham, shows how much might be done towards stamping out infectious diseases if the country generally were supplied with proper means of isolation, and if sanitary authorities were vigilant and careful. The Committee of Management in presenting their report for 1879 notice the complete success with which small-pox has, on no less than twelve occasions, been stamped out, without having extended in one single instance beyond the family into which it was first introduced. During the past year three cases only of small-pox have been admitted, and looking to the excellent provision that has been made, and the constant vigilance on the part of the medical profession and the sanitary officers, it may confidently be hoped that the risk of catching this disease in Cheltenham has been practically banished. The committee complain that the Town Council, although they have gladly availed themselves on several occasions of both small-pox and scarlet fever wards for cases sent in at their instance, have as yet contributed nothing towards the erection or maintenance of the hospital. No more legitimate use could be made of the rates by any sanitary authority than by paying for the instant isolation of individuals in the interests of the whole community. The poor man, in sending his wife or children stricken with small-pox or scarlet fever to the Delancey Hospital, confers a distinct benefit on the public of Cheltenham; and the expense should be borne and cheerfully paid by the public, either through the agency of the Town Council or the Board of Guardians, or by private subscription to the hospital funds. If this were done in a free and liberal spirit, the heads of families in the upper as well as the lower classes would be relieved of much anxiety, and the health of the town would be materially improved.

MID-CHESHIRE DISTRICT: ANNUAL REPORT.

SIR,—Your issue of the 20th instant, containing a notice of my annual report for the year 1878, has been forwarded to me by more than one of my friends. The services rendered by the editorial department of your JOURNAL have been so valuable that much weight attaches to your remarks. None would consider this more than myself.

In mitigation of your unfavourable comments, I may say with confidence that those who are practically acquainted with rural sanitary work would not expect such a complete statement as you very properly desire from a medical officer who had only enjoyed nine months' acquaintance with a district embracing two hundred and twelve separate townships, including a population of 130,000, and spread over an area of upwards of 281,000 acres. Such a sanitary survey as you distinctly mention with approval in another district is, indeed, in process of being made. But so large a district, under the *surveillance* of only ten inspectors, who have other necessary routine work to perform in addition, cannot possibly be reported upon completely in detail in the short space of nine months.

You complain that no report is made upon the state of the district as a whole. I have myself made application to the Local Government Board for their sanction to a comprehensive report for an entire combined district. But such sanction is at present wanting; and reasons, perhaps, are obvious why it should be so.

Further, you say that nothing can be learnt as to preventive sanitary action taken in the district. Scattered throughout the report are many such details, which, I am glad to say, have borne abundant fruit as testified in the improved returns of the registrars for the year 1879. That report is now in the possession of the public.

Again, you complain that my tables are diffuse. But after seven years' experience, and diligent comparison with the reports of others (from whom I have received many valuable hints), I affirm that my tables present the largest amount of information in the smallest possible compass. If any of your readers are sufficiently interested in the matter as to wish to test the accuracy or fairness of your animadversion, I shall be glad to forward a copy of the report on application. I only regret that not many copies are left. But so far as they will go, they shall be at the service of your subscribers.

As to the means taken to stamp out diseases, which you are good enough to wish I had placed on record, it seems a mere waste in every way to recapitulate each year old matter. If nothing new or striking have to be told, why reiterate familiar details? Indeed, the annual reports are written for the Local Government Board and the public, but particularly for the local authorities to which they are addressed, and by whom they are paid for. The medical officer may have special objects in view, and may best be trusted in selecting such points for comment which, each year, he may wish should engage their interest and attention.—I am, sir, yours, etc.,

JOHN M. FOX, Medical Officer of Health
Mid-Cheshire Combined Sanitary District.

The Grove, Lymm, near Warrington.
* * * Mr. Fox, who will bear in mind that the quality of his reporting, and not of his work, was the subject of our criticism, has mistaken our comments on several points. We expected no "complete statement", nor asked for a report on the district as a whole. We certainly should have liked to learn something as to the actual state of affairs in the district at the end of the year; and as this was Mr. Fox's first report—in fact, the first general report that had been made on the district at all—this request was hardly unreasonable. Again, some remarks as to the movement of population in the area would not have been thrown away; and what we re-

gretted was the absence of observations on the death-statistics of the whole district. The facts given in the report as to the action taken for the prevention of the spread of infectious disease and for sanitary improvements are very insufficient. As to the tables, we must adhere to our original opinion.

MILITARY AND NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

NAVAL MEDICAL SERVICE.

SIR,—The thanks of the Naval Medical Department are due to the British Medical Association for the able way in which they are now treating our disabilities. I am one of the unfortunates who was relegated to a long term of half-pay, through no fault of my own, but with the result of two and a half years being wasted. Had I entered the army, I should have had superior rank and pay. At present, I cannot think of recommending my son to enter the navy and follow my footsteps. As regards cabin-accommodation, I was appointed to a ship with ten officers and ten cabins. I thought that I was, in accordance with the promises printed and apparently vouchsafed to us, to have a cabin according to my rank. As the senior in point of age to all, and only junior in point of actual standing by a few months to the paymaster, this is what I found. The senior lieutenant, navigating officer, chief engineer, paymaster, and chaplain, had each his cabin assigned to him; the result being that I had to select one from the remaining five, which were precisely similar to each other. At present, relative rank is a delusion; it simply determines the number of rifles to be fired over your grave.

Something might be done to distinguish those officers who have taken higher qualifications in their profession. I have no wish to draw any invidious distinctions; but as the medical officers of the Naval Artillery Volunteers have their qualifications assigned to them in the *Navy List*, so might, I think with equal justice, the same privilege be awarded to those in the service proper, and the cost of printing would be but a trifling addition in the preparation of the *Navy List*.—I am, sir, yours most obediently,
HOPE.

MEDICAL NEWS.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen passed their primary examinations in anatomy and physiology, at a meeting of the Board of Examiners, on the 5th instant; and, when eligible, will be admitted to the pass-examination.

Messrs. Charles S. Chadwick, Richard Holton, John M. Beverley, Alexander Wilson, Joseph Collier, and Cedric Challinor, students of the Manchester School; Septimus Sunderland, James R. Polson, and Henry Shillito, of the Birmingham School; Harry Swift, and William C. Bull, of the Cambridge School; Walter C. Garman, and Thomas P. Lowe, of the Liverpool School; John Dacre, and Arthur Bower, of the Leeds School; Sandford S. Lessey, of St. Thomas's Hospital; William J. Haddock, of the Charing Cross Hospital; John Hosford, of the Cork School; John H. Baker, of the Newcastle School; and Edward France, of the Sheffield School.

The following gentlemen passed on the 6th instant.

Messrs. John S. Withers, John S. Moreton, George Preston, James Richmond, Thomas L. Jordan, and Alfred Hall, of the Manchester School; Arthur D. Roe, Jamieson B. Hurry, and Henry W. Pigeon, of the Cambridge School; Henry M. Fenwick, Anthony Dodd, and David H. Barley, of the Newcastle School; Arthur H. Wilson, and Griffith G. Jones, of the Liverpool School; William H. Francis, and Lawrence E. A. Salmon, of the Bristol School; John H. North, of the Birmingham School; George Millhouse, of the Leeds School; Charles F. Coombe, of the Sheffield School; and Frank F. Schacht, of St. George's Hospital.

Four candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 7th instant.

Messrs. Walter Scatchard, Eustace G. Carter, and Henry Pope, of the Leeds School; Edward Harrison, and John C. Aldred, of the Cambridge School; Wheelton Hind, and Edwin J. Wenyon, of Guy's Hospital; John J. Berry, of the Manchester School; William Joberns, of the Birmingham School; Robert H. Rowell, of the Newcastle School; Francis H. Furnival, of St. Thomas's Hospital; Charles E. Faunce, of the Middlesex Hospital; Samuel Aspinall, of St. Mary's Hospital; John W. Tibbles, of the Charing Cross Hospital; and Sidney H. C. Martin, of University College.

Five candidates were rejected.

The following gentlemen passed on the 8th instant.

Messrs. George Frost, John B. Sutton, and Hugh R. Nebletts, of the Middlesex Hospital; Edward F. Thring, and William H. Horrocks, of University College; John H. H. Williams, and Louis A. Dunn, of Guy's Hospital; Thomas D. Pryce, and James Berry, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital; Oliver F. N. Treadwell, of St. Thomas's Hospital; and Harry L. R. Dent, of King's College.

One candidate was rejected.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on Thursday, April 1st, 1880.

Adams, Joseph, Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh.
Davies, Jenkin, 33, Sidney Road, Stockwell.
Fraser, Donald Alexander, Weston-super-Mare.
Walters, Frederick Rufenacht, The Waldrons, Croydon.
Wheeler, Frederick John, 31, Grafton Road, Holloway.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their primary professional examination.

Garrard, Charles Rowland Ordish, Guy's Hospital.
Rowell, Robert Henry, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MEDICAL VACANCIES.

Particulars of those marked with an asterisk will be found in the advertisement columns.

The following vacancies are announced:—

- ABINGDON UNION—Medical Officer and Public Vaccinator for No. 3 District. Salary, £95 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, to the Clerk of the Guardians, on or before April 10th.
- ALNWICK UNION—Medical Officer to the Lesbury District. Salary, £25 per annum.
- BETHLEM HOSPITAL—Two Resident Medical Students. Applications, with testimonials, before April 10th.
- BRECKNOCK UNION—Medical Officer to Devynock District. Salary, £90 per annum. Applications on or before April 22nd.
- BRISTOL GENERAL HOSPITAL—Consulting Physician.
- CELBIDGE UNION—Medical Officer for Lucan Dispensary District. Salary, £100 per annum, with £15 per annum as Medical Officer of Health. Registration and Vaccination Fees. Election on April 12th.
- *CHELTENHAM GENERAL HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—Junior House-Surgeon. Salary, £60 per annum, with board and lodgings. Applications on or before April 16th.
- *CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, Birmingham—Resident Medical Officer and Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salaries, £80 and £40 respectively, with board, washing, and attendance. Applications on or before the 22nd instant.
- CRICKLADE AND WOOTTON BASSETT UNION—Medical Officer Third District. Salary, £55.
- DENTAL HOSPITAL OF LONDON—Dental House-Surgeon. Salary, £40 per annum. Applications to the honorary secretary on or before April 14th.
- *DOVER HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £90 for first year (afterwards £100 per annum), with furnished apartments, board, attendance, etc. Applications to the Secretary.
- HOLYWELL UNION—Medical Officer to the Second District of the Whitford District. Salary, £42 per annum.
- INFIRMARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST AND THROAT—A vacancy in the Honorary Medical Visiting Staff. Election on April 15th.
- ISLE OF WIGHT UNION—Medical Officer to the Carisbrooke District. Salary, £80 per annum, with fees for Vaccination. Applications on or before April 14th.
- JERVIS STREET HOSPITAL, Dublin—Surgeon.
- LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY—Physician.
- LEEDS HOSPITAL FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN—Consulting Physician.
- *LEICESTER INFIRMARY—Two Honorary Surgeons. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary not later than April 16th.
- *LIVERPOOL DISPENSARIES—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary to commence, £108 per annum, with furnished apartments, coals, gas, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before April 26th.
- MERIDEN UNION—Medical Officer to Meriden District and Workhouse.
- *METROPOLITAN ASYLUM DISTRICT—Assistant Medical Officer to the Stockwell Fever Hospital. Salary, £180, with board, furnished apartments, and washing. Applications on or before April 15th.
- *METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL—Assistant House-Surgeon. Board, lodging, and washing. No salary, but an honorarium at the end of six and twelve months. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary.
- NOTTING HILL PROVIDENT DISPENSARY—House-Surgeon. Salary, £100 per annum, with furnished apartments, firing, lighting, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, to the honorary secretary on or before May 25th.
- PRESCOT UNION—Medical Officer to Huyton District. Salary, £15.
- SHEFFIELD GENERAL INFIRMARY—Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £80 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications, with testimonials, on or before April 10th.
- *SHEFFIELD PUBLIC HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY—Senior Assistant House-Surgeon. Salary, £65 per annum, with board, lodging, and washing. Applications to the Honorary Secretary on or before April 14th.
- SMITHSON ASYLUM AND POORHOUSE, Greenock—Assistant Resident Medical Officer. Salary, £80 per annum, with board and residence. Applications, with testimonials, on or before April 13th.
- SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL—Dispenser. Salary, £75 per annum, rising at the discretion of the Committee to £100 per annum. Applications, with testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before May 5th.
- *TOWNSHIP OF MANCHESTER—Assistant Medical Officer to the Crumpsall Workhouse, and Resident Assistant Medical Officer at the Workhouse and Casual Wards in New Bridge Street. Joint salary, £150 per annum, with furnished apartments, fire, light, washing, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, not later than 1 P.M. on Thursday, April 15th.
- WANGFORD UNION—Medical Officer to Bungay District. Salary, £90.
- WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—House-Surgeon. Board and residence. Applications to the Secretary not later than April 10th.
- WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL—Pathologist and Curator of the Museum. Salary, £52 10s. per annum. Applications, with copies of testimonials, to the Secretary, on or before April 10th.
- WILTON UNION—Medical Officer to Fovant District. Salary, £80.
- WORCESTER COUNTY AND CITY LUNATIC ASYLUM—Junior Assistant Medical Officer. Salary, £100 per annum, with an increase of £10 per annum for the two succeeding years, board, residence, washing, and attendance. Applications, with testimonials, not later than April 24th.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.

Names marked with an asterisk are those of Members of the Association.

- SHAW, William, M.B., appointed House-Physician to the North Staffordshire Infirmary, *vice* A. M. McAldowie, M.D., resigned.
- *STURGE, W. Allen, M.D., appointed Physician to the Hospital for Epilepsy and Paralysis.

TAYLOR, Harold Gilbertson, M.B.Lond., M.R.C.S.Eng., etc., appointed Assistant Medical Officer to the Royal Albert Asylum for Idiots and Imbeciles of the Northern Counties, Lancaster, *vice* D. T. Playfair, M.B., resigned.

THOMSON, W. Arnold, L.K.Q.C.P.I., appointed Surgeon to the Midland Railway Company for the Amphil, Flitwick, and Harlington Districts.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

The charge for inserting announcements of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is 3s. 6d., which should be forwarded in stamps with the announcements.

MARRIAGES.

CROCKER—FUSSELL.—On the 3rd instant, at St. Nicholas Church, Brighton, by the Rev. T. Lee, Vicar of St. John the Baptist, Islington, uncle of the bride, assisted by the Rev. F. Brealey, late Vicar of Easingwold, Henry Radcliffe Crocker, M.D. Lond., M.R.C.P., of 28, Welbeck Street, W., to Constance Mary, only child of Dr. Fussell, of Brighton, and granddaughter of the late Henry Austin Fussell, of Stirford House, South Wilts.

DREW—YEO.—On April 7th, at Prince Town, South Devon, by the Rev. J. Evans, M.A., Clifford Luxmore Drew, M.B., Her Majesty's Convict Service, Portsmouth, younger son of the late Charles Drew, Esq., 3rd Extra Madras Regiment, to Minnie, youngest daughter of the late William Yeo, Esq., Richmond House, North Devon.

DEATHS.

WINSLOW, William St. John Forbes, fifth son of Dr. L. S. Forbes Winslow, at Sussex-House, Hammersmith, aged 9 months, on April 1st, after a few hours' illness.

WADDELL.—On November 26th, at Tombland, Norwich, Caroline Elizabeth Margaret, the beloved wife of John Craig Waddell, M.D.

PUBLIC HEALTH.—During last week, being the thirteenth week of this year, 4,268 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality was at the average rate of 26 deaths annually in every 1,000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 27 in Edinburgh, 28 in Glasgow, and 43 in Dublin. The annual rates of mortality in the twenty English towns were as follow: Portsmouth 14, Wolverhampton 19, Bradford 20, Sheffield 20, Leeds 21, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 22, Sunderland 22, Bristol 23, Leicester 23, Birmingham 24, Norwich 24, London 25, Brighton 25, Liverpool 27, Hull 29, Salford 29, Oldham 30, Manchester 32, Plymouth 34, and the highest rate 36 in Nottingham. The annual death-rate from the seven principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.7 per 1,000 in the twenty towns, and ranged from 0.7 and 0.8 in Wolverhampton and Leeds, to 6.3 in Sunderland, 6.9 in Nottingham, 7.3 in Salford, and 11.8 in Plymouth. Measles showed the largest proportional fatality in Plymouth, Nottingham, Hull, and Oldham; scarlet fever in Sunderland and Nottingham; and whooping-cough in Manchester and Salford. In London, 1,732 deaths were registered, which were 108 below the average, and gave an annual death-rate of 24.7. The 1,732 deaths included 9 from small-pox, 24 from measles, 59 from scarlet fever, 11 from diphtheria, 142 from whooping-cough, 10 from different forms of fever, and 11 from diarrhoea—being altogether 266 deaths, which were 10 above the average, and were equal to an annual rate of 3.8 per 1,000. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 315 and 334 in the two preceding weeks, further rose to 395 last week, but were 94 below the corrected weekly average; 256 resulted from bronchitis, and 92 from pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 40 deaths; 34 were the result of negligence or accident, including 9 from fractures and contusions, 6 from burns and scalds, 4 from drowning, and 11 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Four cases of suicide were registered. At Greenwich, the mean temperature of the air was 44.9°, and 0.1° above the average. The direction of the wind was variable, and the horizontal movement of the air averaged 12.2 miles per hour, which was 0.2 below the average. Rain fell on three days of the week, to the aggregate amount of 0.54 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was equal to 26 per cent. of its possible duration.

DR. SAMUEL MCCREA of Templepatrick, Co. Antrim, has been killed by being thrown from his car. The horse took fright; and, as the reins broke, Dr. McCrea lost all control and was thrown out, sustaining concussion of the brain, from which he never rallied, although he lingered for two days.

THE MEERUT GAOL.—There has been another serious outbreak of malarious fever, diarrhoea, and dysentery in the Meerut Gaol, with very fatal results. It is the opinion of the gaol authorities and the medical officers at Meerut, that these constant outbreaks are connected with the water-level of the station. The Irrigation Department has been requested to adopt measures to improve the drainage about the gaol.

DR. THOMAS WHISTLER having resigned as Medical Officer of Health for Bray, the Commissioners of that Township have conveyed to him their regret at the severance of the connection which had long and satisfactorily existed between them, during the many years he had the charge of the sanitary state of the town.

OPERATION DAYS AT THE HOSPITALS.

MONDAY.....Metropolitan Free, 2 P.M.—St. Mark's, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Orthopaedic, 2 P.M.

TUESDAY.....Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—Westminster, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—West London, 3 P.M.—St. Mark's, 9 A.M.—Cancer Hospital, Brompton, 3 P.M.

WEDNESDAY..St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Mary's, 1.30 P.M.—Middlesex, 1 P.M.—University College, 2 P.M.—King's College, 1.30 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Great Northern, 2 P.M.—Samaritan Free Hospital for Women and Children, 2.30 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Peter's, 2 P.M.—National Orthopaedic, 10 A.M.

THURSDAY....St. George's, 1 P.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 1 P.M.—Charing Cross, 2 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 P.M.—Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, 2 P.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Hospital for Women, 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

FRIDAY.....Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Central London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Royal South London Ophthalmic, 2 P.M.—Guy's, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's (Ophthalmic Department), 2 P.M.—East London Hospital for Children, 2 P.M.

SATURDAY....St. Bartholomew's, 1.30 P.M.—King's College, 1 P.M.—Royal London Ophthalmic, 11 A.M.—Royal Westminster Ophthalmic, 1.30 P.M.—St. Thomas's, 1.30 P.M.—Royal Free, 9 A.M. and 2 P.M.—London, 2 P.M.

HOURS OF ATTENDANCE AT THE LONDON HOSPITALS.

CHARING CROSS.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; Skin, M. Th.; Dental, M. W. F., 9.30.

GUY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, exc. Tu., 1.30; Obstetric, M. W. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Tu. F., 12.30; Ear, Tu. F., 12.30; Skin, Tu., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 12.

KING'S COLLEGE.—Medical, daily, 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., M. W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th. S., 1; Ear, Th., 2; Skin, Th.; Throat, Th., 3; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

LONDON.—Medical, daily exc. S., 2; Surgical, daily, 1.30 and 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 9; Ear, S., 9.30; Skin, W., 9; Dental, Tu., 9.

MIDDLESEX.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1; Obstetric, Tu. F., 1.30; o.p., W. S., 1.30; Eye, W. S., 8.30; Ear and Throat, Tu., 9; Skin, F., 4; Dental, daily, 9.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. Th. S., 2; o.p., W. S., 9; Eye, Tu. W. Th. S., 2; Ear, M., 2.30; Skin, F., 1.30; Larynx, W., 11.30; Orthopaedic, F., 12.30; Dental, F., 9.

ST. GEORGE'S.—Medical and Surgical, M. Tu. F. S., 1; Obstetric, Tu. S., 1; o.p., Th., 2; Eye, W. S., 2; Ear, Tu., 2; Skin, Th., 1; Throat, M., 2; Orthopaedic, W., 2; Dental, Tu. S., 9; Th., 1.

ST. MARY'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1.15; Obstetric, Tu. F., 9.30; o.p., Tu. F., 1.30; Eye, M. Th., 1.30; Ear, W. S., 2; Skin, Th., 1.30; Throat, W. S., 12.30; Dental, W. S., 9.30.

ST. THOMAS'S.—Medical and Surgical, daily, except Sat., 2; Obstetric, M. Th., 2; o.p., W. F., 12.30; Eye, M. Th., 2; o.p., daily except Sat., 1.30; Ear, Tu., 12.30; Skin, Th., 12.30; Throat, Tu., 12.30; Children, S., 12.30; Dental, Tu. F., 10.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.—Medical and Surgical, daily, 1 to 2; Obstetric, M. Tu. Th. F., 1.30; Eye, M. W. F., 2; Ear, S., 1.30; Skin, Tu., 1.30; S., 9; Throat, Th., 2.30; Dental, W., 10.3.

WESTMINSTER.—Medical and Surgical, daily 1.30; Obstetric, Tu. F., 3; Eye, M. Th., 2.30; Ear, Tu. F., 9; Skin, Th., 1; Dental, W. S., 9.15.

MEETINGS OF SOCIETIES DURING THE NEXT WEEK.

MONDAY.—Medical Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Clement Godson, M.D., will exhibit a Specimen of Placenta Succenturia; T. Harrington Tuke, M.D., F.R.C.P., will deliver an address on "The Lunacy Laws".

TUESDAY.—Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8 P.M., Ballot, 8.30, Dr. Gilbert Smith and Mr. Walsham, "Case of extreme Pharyngeal Stenosis, the result of Syphilis"; Dr. E. C. Anderson, "On the Partial Metabolism by the Liver of Leucin and Tyrosin into Urea".

THURSDAY.—Harveian Society of London, 8.30 P.M. Mr. Teevan, "Points in the Surgery of the Urinary Organs which every Practitioner ought to know"; Mr. Henry Power, "On the Affections of the Eye in connection with Pregnancy".

FRIDAY.—Society of Medical Officers of Health, 8 P.M. Mr. A. Wynter Blyth, "The Prevention and Propagation of Diphtheria"; Dr. Alfred Hill, "Diphtheria and Typhoid, and their concomitant conditions in Birmingham".

LETTERS, NOTES, AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

COMMUNICATIONS respecting editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor, 161, Strand, W.C., London; those concerning business matters, non-delivery of the JOURNAL, etc., should be addressed to the General Manager, at the Office, 161, Strand, W.C., London.

AUTHORS desiring reprints of their articles published in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, are requested to communicate beforehand with the General Secretary and Manager, 161, Strand, W.C.

WE CANNOT UNDERTAKE TO RETURN MANUSCRIPTS NOT USED.

CORRESPONDENTS not answered, are requested to look to the Notices to Correspondents of the following week.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.—We shall be much obliged to Medical Officers of Health if they will, on forwarding their Annual and other Reports, favour us with Duplicate Copies.

CORRESPONDENTS who wish notice to be taken of their communications, should authenticate them with their names—of course not necessarily for publication.

SICK CLUBS AND THEIR MEDICAL OFFICERS.

A POOR AND DISGUSTED MEMBER writes that he is afraid that, beyond ventilating the subject, discussion will do very little good. In a town of 14,000 inhabitants, where he practises, there are two medical men, possessed both of considerable private property, who have these medical clubs. The rate of pay is, for a woman and three children, ninepence a quarter; for every additional child under fourteen, one penny more a quarter; for every child above fourteen, ninepence per quarter. Of course, they both employ unqualified assistants—one employs two, one of whom is in charge of a branch practice. In such a place, one is obliged to have such clubs, but he, of course, takes no adult under four shillings a year. The system is an entire mistake in my opinion, with half-a-crown a year for an adult. The patients are, in many cases, simply neglected. The unqualified assistant occasionally is fairly well up to ordinary cases; but as in that case he never stays long, they may be said to scarcely get the value of their money, small though it is. He thinks a man who has an open surgery is far more worthy than a man who, with ample means, thus lowers his profession.

A CLUB DOCTOR writes: In reply to G. P., with reference to the formation of a provident society, I suggest that he should not form one at all if he can manage to get a fair remuneration for his work. If he do form a provident society, he will have members in it who are better able to pay for their medical attendance than most country doctors are for their ordinary daily wants. To avoid this unfair kind of work on the part of club patients, I would recommend as follows. 1. No member should be admitted into the society who earns £2 a-week. 2. Every member should be medically examined, and that carefully, before he is admitted into the society. 3. Farmers, publicans, tradesmen, and their sons, should be excluded from the Society. 4. Members suffering from gout or any other disease brought on by immorality or indulgence should be excluded from the benefits of the society, and have to pay for their medical advice, etc. 5. Female clubs should not be taken, as they are, as a rule, unremunerative. 6. No club should be taken at less than six shillings per head, and the distance should be limited to (say) three miles. 7. Members, when sick and unable to attend at the surgery, should give notice before 10 A.M. if they desire attendance at their homes.

It is very essential that a club doctor should make a fair claim for his work, and not be too obsequious to club patients, for the support and family connection which club patients pretend to give to their doctors are highly overrated: I believe that club patients think nothing at all about their doctors' interest, and only about the doctor when they are sick.

ERRATA.—On page 524 of last week's JOURNAL, column 2, line 26, for "blood trichinae" read "brood-trichinae"; and on page 525, column 1, line 6, for "There fore" read "Heretofore".

CONJUGAL INTERFERENCE WITH DOCTORS.

SIR,—We should be glad to know if the course we pursued in the following case is a correct one. We were consulted a short time ago by a patient who has been suffering from hemorrhoids for some years. On examination, we discovered a fistula *in ano*, and at once suggested the opinion of a London consultant being taken. Our patient expressed himself as being satisfied with our diagnosis, and agreed to the course we proposed to adopt, viz., an operation at an early date. We visited him on two occasions. The suggestion as to the consultation was made at the first visit; and nothing was said about it at the second. A few days after our second visit, our patient's wife called on us, saying she wished to have the opinion of a London surgeon *for her own satisfaction*. This was agreed to, no name being mentioned. On the following day, an arrangement was made with our patient to consult an eminent London surgeon. It was quite settled, and the letter to make the appointment was to have been sent by the next post. Before that letter was sent, we received one from our patient's wife to the effect that the surgeon named was not to be written to; that she wished to consult, at her own time and convenience, irrespectively of us, anyone she might choose, and without our being present; and that she would be guided entirely by what the London surgeon consulted by her should say as to whether he should take charge of the case, or, on the other hand, if he did not consider it one of much importance, she wished her husband to come back under our care. In answer to this, we wrote a few lines to the effect that, as she apparently did not place much confidence in our judgment, we begged to withdraw our attendance of the case. Since this was written, we find that the patient is satisfied with our opinion, and anxious that we should undertake his case; but is in great anxiety what course to pursue, as he considers that his wife has a natural claim on his actions. The patient is in a good position.—Yours truly,

M. B. M. Assoc.

Suffolk, April 6th, 1880.

. Our correspondents acted quite rightly in the circumstances; indeed, we think that they could not have followed any other course consistent with honourable independence of action.

McGILL College.—A registered practitioner, being a Doctor of Medicine of a foreign or colonial university, is not legally entitled to subscribe himself M.D. in England; but many holders of such degrees are allowed to use it by custom and courtesy.

CORRESPONDENTS are particularly requested by the Editor to observe that communications relating to advertisements, changes of address, and other business matters, should be addressed to Mr. FRANCIS FOWKE, General Secretary and Manager, at the Journal Office, 161, Strand, London, and not to the Editor.

COMPOSITION AND QUALITY OF THE METROPOLITAN WATERS IN MARCH 1880.

The following are the returns made by Dr. C. Meymott Tidy to the Society of Medical Officers of Health.

Names of Water Companies.	Total Solid Matter per Gallon.	Oxygen required by Organic Matter.	Nitrogen As Nitrates, &c.	Ammonia.		Hardness. (Clark's Scale.)	
				Saline.	Organic.	Before Boiling.	After Boiling.
<i>Thames Water Companies.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Grains.</i>	<i>Degs.</i>	<i>Degs.</i>
Grand Junction ..	22.04	0.056	0.165	0.001	0.010	16.0	3.8
West Middlesex ..	21.87	0.056	0.150	0.000	0.008	15.8	3.8
Southwark and Vauxhall	21.24	0.032	0.150	0.000	0.006	16.5	3.3
Chelsea	22.95	0.032	0.150	0.002	0.005	15.8	3.8
Lambeth	23.17	0.028	0.150	0.000	0.007	16.0	3.8
<i>Other Companies.</i>							
Kent	33.19	0.004	0.435	0.000	0.003	21.2	5.6
New River	22.03	0.040	0.150	0.000	0.006	16.0	3.3
East London	23.92	0.028	0.150	0.001	0.006	17.0	3.8

Note.—The amount of oxygen required to oxidise the organic matter, nitrates, etc. is determined by a standard solution of permanganate of potash acting for three hours. The water was found to be clear and nearly colourless in all cases but the following, when it was slightly turbid—namely, in that of the Lambeth Water Company.

SIR,—Would some of your readers (who are medical officers to public schools) kindly inform me how soon a boy may safely be allowed to return to his studies in school after a simple and uncomplicated attack, first, of measles; second, of mumps; all necessary disinfecting precautions having been thoroughly carried out previously to leaving the sick-ward?—Yours faithfully,
April 6th, 1880. MEDICAL OFFICER.

A CIRCULAR.

SIR,—After publishing the circular bearing my name on the 13th instant, I must ask you to insert in your JOURNAL my utter and unqualified denial of a knowledge of the existence of the circular previously to its publication and distribution. I should feel obliged if you would insert the letter that I wrote to the Senior Physician to the Surrey Dispensary, Dr. Hooper (which I may observe I also sent to the Committee of the Chelsea, Brompton, and Belgrave Dispensary), and his reply—Your obedient servant,
14, Redcliffe Gardens, S.W., March 30th, 1880. T. B. PARTRIDGE.

Copy of Letter from Dr. Partridge to Dr. Hooper.

"Dear Dr. Hooper,—I am neither surprised nor annoyed that my colleagues at the Surrey Dispensary should have written a letter, couched in the temperate terms, considering the cause, which I received this morning. Nothing, I can assure you, was farther from my own idea of the respect due to our profession, and may I add to myself, than emulating the practices and customs of business men, who, to enlarge their connection, endeavour to make themselves known by sowing broadcast their circulars and advertisements. This, I take it, should not be the custom observed by anyone belonging to what are called, and justly, the three learned professions. I think that the more honourable practice is—I forget the exact words of the poet—to 'do good by stealth, and blush to find it fame'."

"The circulars in question were written and delivered by one of my friends entirely without my knowledge; indeed, I expressed the greatest annoyance when I heard of their distribution, and desired that the remainder should be delivered up to me, which, being done, I immediately committed them to the flames. I repeat that I am very sorry that such a step should have been taken by an acquaintance, without apprising me of his intentions; but I trust and believe that you will hold me thoroughly free from blame in the matter, and impute the action to its right source, viz., the intentions of a friend which were undeniably well intentioned, though not duly considered.—Yours faithfully,
T. B. PARTRIDGE."

Copy of Letter from Dr. Hooper to Dr. Partridge.

"9, Trinity Square, S.E., March 24th, 1880.
"Dear Dr. Partridge,—Your letter of yesterday gave me much pleasure, because it showed me that my first impression on seeing the 'circular'—that it was the work of an enemy or of a very injudicious friend—was correct. I now regret extremely that I complied with the request of my colleagues, and wrote to you, and that I did not carry out my first intention and see you personally on the matter. I believe you are the least likely man in the world to adopt any ungentlemanlike or unprofessional means of making yourself and your merits known to the public.—I am, yours very sincerely,
DANIEL HOOPER."

"* * We publish this correspondence with much pleasure, being convinced thereby that Dr. Partridge was altogether guiltless of the production of the unprofessional circular to which we felt it our duty to call attention by inserting it in this JOURNAL. The publication of it is, in the circumstances, not a matter of regret on our part, as it has given Dr. Partridge an opportunity of disclaiming all participation in its production, which not unnaturally was in many professional quarters attributed to him; and we trust that his present declaration will have the effect of removing any unfavourable ideas which may have been formed regarding his professional character."

SIR,—At page 450 of the JOURNAL of March 20th is a notice of an "Original Form of Prescription". My grandfather had a tenant who wrote his account, in his own way, and on his door. He brought his door to explain the account, which no one else could understand: however, he was not so lucky as the French patient, as it rained heavily, and the chalk marks were washed out.—Yours, etc., W.

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS.—Advertisements for insertion in the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL should be forwarded direct to the Publishing Office, 161, Strand, London, addressed to Mr. FOWKE, not later than Thursday, Twelve o'clock.

THE MEDICAL REGISTER OF EUROPE.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Jackson's inquiry in the JOURNAL of March 20th, I beg to say that there were only two numbers of the Register published, one in 1780, and another in 1780. They were published by J. Murray, of 32, Fleet Street, London, by editors who chose to be anonymous, and solicited information from all parts, English and Foreign. From the preface to the first volume it appears to have been a tentative experiment, as it was stated that whether the Register were continued annually must depend on the amount of public favour it obtained. I suppose, therefore, that its vitality was limited to the period of two years.—Yours, etc.,
Fulbourn Asylum. G. M. BACON, M.D.

A. D.—Messrs. Macfarlane and Co., Edinburgh.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH TO THE PORT OF LONDON.

SIR,—No doubt "M. O. H." considers himself "capable, even, of instructing professors in sanitary science"; and it is, therefore, a pity that he should allow his light to shine under a bushel. As you say, "attendance as a pupil at a hygienic laboratory is perfectly compatible with the possession of mature judgment and considerable knowledge of hygienic matters"; and it shows, moreover, a want of that self-satisfaction which is an effective barrier against the acquisition of knowledge. It is of great importance that the posts of medical officers of health throughout the country should be held by men who have had a thorough training in all branches of sanitary science, and it would be a public calamity if a so-called "practical" man, and not an accomplished as well as experienced sanitarian, were placed in so important a position as that of Medical Officer of Health to the Port of London.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,
W. H. CORFIELD, M.A., M.D.(Oxon),
Professor of Hygiene and Public Health at University College, London.

A. B.—We think that, in the absence of any specific agreement, the boy who takes out medicines ought to be paid from the proceeds of the practice if he serve both partners. If, on the other hand, he be the servant of one of the partners, that one should pay him.

M.D. Glasgow does not know what hood he is entitled to wear, and asks if any of our correspondents can enlighten him.

PERSISTENT VITALITY.

SIR,—I have a case under my care at the present time, a few particulars respecting which, I think, may be of interest. It is that of a female (married), in her seventy-first year, who was seized with paralysis on the 20th of January last; since which date she has taken no nourishment whatever, and yet, at the time of my writing this, is still alive and conscious. She was of a spare habit of body before the attack, but is now positively nothing but skin and bone. Occasionally, she swallows a teaspoonful of cold water; but this is attended with great difficulty. I did not think it possible that a person at her time of life could possibly survive so long without taking nourishment.—I am, sir, yours obediently,
MANCHESTER. SYDNEY HENSON.

WE are indebted to correspondents for the following periodicals, containing news, reports, and other matters of medical interest:—The Western Morning News; The Glasgow Herald; The Manchester Guardian; The Yorkshire Post; The Leeds Mercury; The Cork Constitution; The Coventry Herald; The British Guiana Royal Gazette; The Ceylon Observer; The Wigan Observer; The Peterborough and Huntingdonshire Standard; The Sussex Daily News; The Liverpool Mercury; The Banffshire Journal; The Newport and Market Drayton Advertiser; The North Wales Guardian; The Sheffield Daily Telegraph; The Wexford Independent; etc.

* * We shall be greatly obliged if correspondents forwarding newspapers will kindly mark the passages to which it is desired to direct attention.

COMMUNICATIONS, LETTERS, etc., have been received from:—

Dr. Sland, Davos Platz; Mr. W. J. H. Wood, Boston; Dr. Little, Manchester; Dr. W. Bird, York; Dr. W. Roberts, Manchester; Mr. J. I. Mackenzie, Rugby; Mr. T. Annandale, Edinburgh; Mr. E. Thompson, Omagh; Dr. Cobbold, London; Dr. W. Walter, Manchester; Dr. G. Mackenzie Bacon, Fulbourn; Dr. Duncan J. Mackenzie, Glossop; Dr. Saundby, Birmingham; McGill College; Mr. A. W. M. Robson, Leeds; Dr. Mackay, Inverness; Acromion; A. B.; M. B. M. Association; Mr. Arthur H. Benson, Dublin; Mr. E. Jepson, London; Mr. F. Arnold Lees, Wetherby; Mr. John Banks, London; Mr. W. Shaw, Cheltenham; Dr. H. Tomkins, Manchester; Mr. S. Benton, London; Mr. J. W. Craigie, London; Dr. A. Grant, London; Mr. G. C. Steet, London; Mr. Eastes, London; Mr. A. Cooper, London; Dr. Crichton Browne, London; Inquirer; Our Dublin Correspondent; Dr. Dixon, Bermondsey; Dr. Kennedy, Dublin; Dr. Churton, Leeds; Mr. T. Lettis, Yarmouth; An Old Member of B.M.A.; Mr. E. Elwin, Dover; Mr. P. Bell, Edinburgh; Dr. W. S. Greenfield, London; Ignoramus; Our Glasgow Correspondent; Mr. J. Ogden, Haworth; Dr. Thomson, Amptill; G. H. B.; Our Edinburgh Correspondent; An Irish Member of B. M. Association; Dr. J. Rogers, London; Mr. A. Graham, Keyworth; Mr. James Diggins, Lancaster; Mr. F. Wright, London; Dr. J. Johnston, Bolton; Mr. W. H. Bull, Stony Stratford; Dr. J. Vinen, Southwark; Dr. A. Buchanan, London; etc.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED.

The Answer of the New York Neurological Society to the Document known as the Report of the Committee on Public Health relative to Lunatic Asylums. New York. 1880.

Transactions of the Obstetrical Society of London. Vol. xxi. For the year 1879. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1880.

Sanitary Organisation of Nations. By H. I. Bowditch, M.D. Cambridge (U.S.) 1880.

A Plea for Cold Climates in the Treatment of Pulmonary Consumption: Minnesota as a Health-Resort. By Talbot Jones, M.D. New York. 1879.